



New Smoke-Alarm Requirements for Federally Assisted Homes

Effective October 2025, in accordance with Public and Federally Assisted Housing Fire Safety Act of 2022 and Federal Register Docket No. FR-6086-N-12, U.S. Inspection Group will be enforcing HUD's new standards for smoke alarms as required and noted below.

Required Locations (battery or hard-wired, working condition):

- On every level of the home (basement, 1st floor, 2nd floor, etc)
- Inside each bedroom
- Within 21 feet (along the path of travel) to any bedroom door
- If a door separates a bedroom hallway alarm from a living area, place an additional alarm on the living-area side of that door

Placement Guidelines:

- Ceiling mount: more than 4 inches from the nearest wall.
- Wall mount: the top of the alarm is 4-12 inches below the ceiling.
- Do not paint or decorate alarms.

Acceptable Types:

Smoke alarms in federally assisted units must be either:

- Hard-wired; or
- A sealed 10-year (non-replaceable, non-rechargeable) battery alarm that:
 - is tamper-resistant,
 - has a silence feature

If a required smoke alarm is missing, the wrong type, not working, or installed in the wrong place, it will be cited as a life-threatening issue and must be corrected within 24 hours.